

Today, I joined with Waukegan Mayor Richard Hyde, State of Illinois and Lake County officials to present the final plan to cleanup Waukegan Harbor to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While 90 percent of the dangerous chemicals were removed in the early 1990s, there is still more to do to eliminate the harmful Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) found in the sediments of the harbor. You can read my remarks to the review committee [here](#) .

According to the [International Joint Commission](#) , Waukegan Harbor suffers from six problems as a result of pollution. These include:

- Restrictions on fish and wildlife consumption
- Beach closings
- Degradation of benthos (organisms and their habitats at the bottom of the harbor)
- Degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton populations
- Restrictions on dredging activities
- Loss of fish and wildlife habitat.

You can learn more about the consequences of pollutants in the harbor by visiting the EPA's [Waukegan Harbor Web site](#)

. The site provides a history of cleanup efforts as well as a description of community involvement from organizations such as the Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group.